



## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

### 24-HOUR REPORT

14 DECEMBER 2021

#### (U) CALIFORNIA

##### **(U) Porterville – Lengthy Investigation Leads to Three Arrests for Use and Sale of drugs and Weapons**

(U) After a lengthy investigation, the Porterville Police Department seized over 11 pounds of marijuana, over 600 Xanax pills, five firearms, 18 large-capacity magazines, and over 1,200 rounds of ammunition. In March, the Porterville Police Department Narcotics Investigations Unit received a tip about drug deals in their area. After a lengthy investigation, a group of three suspects was arrested and booked into the South County Detention Facility for the use and sale of drugs and guns.

SOURCE: 13 December 2021, [ABC30](#)

##### **(U) San Diego – Sailor Accused of Setting USS Bonhomme Richard on Fire Appears in Court**

(U) Seaman Apprentice Ryan Sawyer Mays, a sailor accused of setting last year's fire that ravaged the USS Bonhomme Richard, appeared in a naval base San Diego courtroom yesterday. Authorities charged Mays with setting the July 2020 fire, which burned for several days while the ship was docked at Naval Base San Diego. A search warrant suggests someone sabotaged the ship's firefighting equipment before the fire broke out in July 2020. The warrant describes Mays as hating the Navy. He was a failed SEAL trainee and was also going through a breakup. During a search of the scene, investigators found bottles and cans near where the fire started. One of the containers may have held a fluid similar to diesel, kerosene, and jet fuel. The results of the hearing will determine whether Mays will go to trial.

SOURCE: 14 December 2021, [KYMA](#)

##### **(U) San Diego – Errand Runner for 'El Chapo,' a Key to the Kingpin's Ultimate Capture, is Sentenced**

(U) Mario Hidalgo Arguello, a key individual in determining the location of Joaquín "El Chapo" Guzmán, was sentenced to seven years in prison for conspiring to import marijuana aboard a San Diego yacht. Hidalgo was arrested on a provisional US warrant in March 2017 while in Mexican custody and was extradited to San Diego in January 2020 to face charges brought by a 2015 federal grand jury. Authorities tracked Hidalgo down at a party in Culiacán one night and demanded a tour of Guzmán's hideouts. Hidalgo led the Mexican marines and a US drug agent to the safe house where Guzmán was holed up, but he narrowly escaped through a tunnel under a bathtub. Authorities stayed on his trail and captured Guzmán at a Mazatlán hotel a week later. As Hidalgo is not a US citizen, he is likely to be deported to Mexico when his term has been completed.

SOURCE: 13 December 2021, [LA Times](#)

#### (U) NATIONAL

##### **(U) District of Columbia – Chinese Hackers Exploiting Log4shell Software Vulnerability**

(U) Washington – Chinese hackers are already exploiting a 'fully weaponized' software vulnerability that is causing mayhem on the web, with experts warning that it poses a threat to internet-connected devices across the globe. The vulnerability comes from Apache's Log4j, a popular open-source library that helps software developers log activities in applications that they use and build. The software is akin to a digital notebook and is widely used. Experts have said the 'Log4shell' flaw is the biggest threat in the history of modern computing, with countries issuing critical warnings over the vulnerability that

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allows criminals to steal personal data, plant malicious software, or hijack card details. Hundreds of millions of devices could be exposed to the vulnerability, with researchers having documented over 846,000 attacks globally.

SOURCE: 14 December 2021, [News Nation USA](#)

### **(U) Florida – Two Tampa Men Sentenced For COVID-19 Benefits Conspiracy**

(U) Tampa – A US District Judge sentenced Kary Stevenson, 47, and Corey Quinn, 35, both of Tampa, for conspiracy to commit access device fraud and aggravated identity theft related to COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits. The judge sentenced Stevenson to five years and 10 months in federal prison and Quinn to seven years. As part of their sentence, the court ordered Stevenson and Quinn to pay \$87,046 in restitution to the various state workforce agencies they defrauded. According to court documents, from approximately May 2020 and continuing until August 12, 2020, Stevenson and Quinn obtained the personal identifying information of others. They used that information to submit, or cause the submission of, false and fraudulent unemployment insurance (UI) claims to various state workforce agencies to obtain UI benefits to which they were not entitled.

SOURCE: 13 December 2021, [Tampa Free Press](#)

### **(U) Washington – Man Sentenced in Drug Bust Where He Shot at ATF Agents**

(U) Spokane – Patrick Pearson, was sentenced to 35-years in federal prison for his role in a drug bust where he shot and injured federal agents. In July, a jury convicted Pearson of several charges, including conspiracy to distribute 500 grams or more of methamphetamine and heroin and assault with a deadly weapon. Pearson was one of 15 people charged in the 2019 drug raid in Moses Lake, where he used a 12-gauge shotgun to shoot ATF agents. The use of tear gas brought Pearson out of his trailer after he'd shot himself in the face in an apparent suicide attempt. The prosecution claimed Pearson forcibly assaulted six federal agents, injuring two.

SOURCE: 14 December 2021, [KPQ](#)

## **(U) INTERNATIONAL**

### **(U) Columbia – Bombings at Camilo Daza Airport Kills Three**

(U) Cucuta – Three people – two of whom were police officers - were killed early today in two explosions at the airport in the Colombian border city of Cucuta. Cucuta is the capital of Norte de Santander, a province along the border with Venezuela that has become the new epicenter of Colombia's long internal conflict as security forces battle drug gangs and rebels amid increasing coca production. Law enforcement officials indicated that criminals entered the airport and detonated an explosive between the runway and the fence. Police are trying to identify the perpetrators and determine a motive.

SOURCE: 14 December 2021, [US News](#)

### **(U) Russia – Bomb Injures 12 at an Orthodox Christian Convent School; Ex-student Suspected**

(U) Moscow – 12 people were wounded after a homemade bomb detonated in a school attached to an Orthodox Christian convent. Police identified an 18-year-old former student as a suspect in the explosion. The bomb detonated at the Vladychny convent in Serpukhov, approximately 65 miles outside Moscow. After officials evacuated staff and students from the scene, Russia's Investigative Committee began a formal investigation into the bombing.

SOURCE: 13 December 2021, [ABC News](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-636-2900.**